

Message Text

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SUBJ: FRG/GOE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION

1. EGYPTIAN NEWS MEDIA HAS GIVEN RELATIVELY HEAVY
COVERAGE TO VISIT FRG MINISTER SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND
EDUCATION DR. VULKER HAUF, WHO ATTENDED MAY 16 OPENING OF
EGYPT'S FIRST SOLAR POWER STATION. STATION, WHICH
REPORTEDLY HAS A 20,000 KILOWATT HOUR OUTPUT, WAS CON-
STRUCTED UNDER 1977 GOE/FRG PROTOCOL FOR ECONOMIC AND
SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION. STATION IS EXPECTED TO PRODUCE
POWER FOR IRRIGATION PUMPS TO BE USED IN RECLAMATION OF
500 ACRES IN THE NEW LLEY. TOTAL RECLAMATION COSTS IN
AREA WILL AMOUNT TO LE 2 MILLION (APPROX \$2.8 MILLION AT
PARALLEL RATE), HALF OF WHICH WILL REPORTEDLY BE BORNE
BY FRG.

2. HAUF'S VISIT WAS CLIMAXED BY MAY 18 INITIALING OF
1978 GOE/FRG SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL AGREEMENT.
ACCORDING TO PRESS, FRG WILL SEND FOUR TEAMS OF EXPERTS TO
EGYPT OVER NEXT FEW MONTHS. FIRST TEAM WILL DISCUSS FRG
"GIFT" OF 10 SOLAR ELECTRIC POWER STATIONS TO EGYPT.
SECOND TEAM WILL ESTABLISH URANIUM EXPLORATION PROGRAM
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DRAWING HEAVILY ON FRG EXPERTISE, WHILE THIRD WILL SET
UP AN ATOMIC EXPERT EXCHANGE PROGRAM AND HELP DEVELOP
ATOMIC RESEARCH LABORATORIES. (MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY
OFFICIAL TOLD VISITING WESTINGHOUSE VP DELZIO
MAY 17 THAT FRG WILL SUPPLY GOE WITH NEW ZERO MEGAWATT
RESEARCH REACTOR--SEE SEPTTEL.) THE FOURTH TEAM OF
EXPERTS WILL REPORTEDLY HELP MODERNIZE EGYPT'S WATER

AND IRRIGATION SYSTEMS.

3. COMMENT: FRG EMBOFF (CONTACTED PRIOR TO INITIALLING OF 1978 AGREEMENT) TELLS US THAT CONSTRUCTION OF SMALL SOLAR POWER STATION IN EGYPT IS PART OF ONGOING WEST GERMAN SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR RESEARCH INTO SOURCES OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY AND IS SEPARATE FROM THEIR AID PROGRAM. EGYPT WAS CHOSEN AS SITE FOR EXPERIMENTAL PLANT BECAUSE OF ITS YEAR-ROUND ABUNDANCE OF SUNSHINE. FUNDS FOR RECLAMATION OF NEW VALLEY LANDS, HOWEVER, WILL COME OUT OF FRG FOREIGN AID TO GOE. PRESS REPORTS OF 1978 AGREEMENT, IF ACCURATE, WOULD APPEAR TO INDICATE SIGNIFICANT EXPANSION OF GOE/FRG TECHNICAL COOPERATION, ESPECIALLY IN FIELD OF URANIUM EXPLORATION AND NUCLEAR COOPERATION. PRESS PRONE TO EXAGGERATION, HOWEVER, AND IT LIKELY THAT PROJECTS STILL VERY MUCH IN DISCUSSION PHASE. MATTHEWS

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